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28 COOLIT SYSTEMS, INC. and Defendants
CORSAIR GAMING, INC. and CORSAIR
MEMORY, INC

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

22 ASETEK DANMARK A/S,
23 Plaintiff and
24 Counterdefendant,
25 v.
26 COOLIT SYSTEMS, INC.,
27 Defendant and
28 Counterclaimant
CORSAIR GAMING, INC. and CORSAIR
MEMORY, INC,
Defendants.

CASE NO. 3:19-cv-00410-EMC

**REVISED FURTHER JOINT CASE
MANAGEMENT STATEMENT AND
[PROPOSED] ORDER**

Pursuant to the Court’s Order dated December 22, 2020 (Dkt. 207), consolidating the case at bar with the related case *Asetek Danmark A/S v. Corsair Gaming, Inc. et al.* (20-cv-6541-EMC), Plaintiff and Counterdefendant Asetek Danmark A/S (“Asetek”), Defendant and Counterclaimant CoolIT Systems, Inc. (“CoolIT”), and Defendants Corsair Gaming Inc. and Corsair Memory, Inc. (collectively, “Corsair”), jointly submit the following FURTHER JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT STATEMENT, including a stipulated case management schedule for pre-trial and trial, and a disputed matter related to limits on discovery on Corsair that the parties request the Court to resolve.

This Statement does not include the case management matters that were addressed in the parties' JOINT FURTHER CASE MANAGEMENT STATEMENT filed on December 15, 2020 (Dkt. 201).

1. Scheduling

The proposed schedule below includes proposed claim construction negotiations and briefing for construction of disputed terms in Asetek’s U.S. Patent Nos. 10,613,601 (“the ’601 patent”) and 10,599,196 (“the ’196 patent”), as well as the disputed claim terms “plurality of [juxtaposed] fins” and/or “side[s] of the fins” in CoolIT’s U.S. Patent No. U.S. 8,746,330 (“the ’330 patent”). The parties’ positions on claim construction for the ’330 patent are stated below.

Asetek’s position: As a result of the Court’s granting of CoolIT’s motion to amend its infringement contentions for its ’330 patent (Dkt. Nos. 184, 190), CoolIT has advanced new interpretations of “plurality of [juxtaposed] fins” and/or “side[s] of the fins” in the asserted ’330 claims. The meaning of these claims terms was not disputed before CoolIT filed its motion to amend its infringement contentions, and therefore the Court did not construe either of these terms in its prior claim construction ruling, contrary to CoolIT’s representation below. *See* Dkt. 149 at 44-45 (providing list of the claim terms construed by the Court); Dkt. 184 at 8 (Judge Beeler finding that “no one asked to construe ‘plurality of the [juxtaposed] fins’ and ‘sides of the fins,’ again, because the issue was ‘adjacent’/‘juxtaposed with.’”); *see also* Dkt. 184 at 10 (same). Moreover, Judge Beeler did not find that claim construction of these terms would be unnecessary as CoolIT implies below. Rather, she only found that granting CoolIT’s motion to amend would not prejudice Asetek because, even if new construction of these terms were to be conducted, “the inquiry would be modest.” Dkt. 184 at 9-10.

1 Asetek disputes CoolIT's new interpretations of "plurality of [juxtaposed] fins" and "side[s]
 2 of the fins," which broadens the scope of the claims beyond CoolIT's prior assertions in its original
 3 infringement contentions, and specifically whether one skilled in the art after reviewing the intrinsic
 4 evidence would have understood these claim terms in the way CoolIT now contends. As a result of
 5 this dispute, the Court needs to engage in claim construction to determine the proper meaning and
 6 scope of these claim terms, and preferably before expert discovery begins. Asetek disagrees with
 7 CoolIT's assertion that the terms do not require construction and/or should simply have their plain an
 8 ordinary meaning, but that issue and the relevant intrinsic evidence needs to be briefed before the
 9 Court can decide this dispute. The parties can include these terms from the '330 patent as part of the
 10 supplemental claim construction briefing for Asetek's '601 and '196 patents per the schedule indicated
 11 below.

12 CoolIT's position: Asetek misstates CoolIT's position. CoolIT is not advancing any new
 13 claim interpretations and Asetek's arguments to the contrary were already rejected by Judge Beeler.
 14 (Dkt. No. 184.) Further, the Court overruled Asetek's objections to Judge Beeler's order where Asetek
 15 again tried to advance the same arguments. It is Asetek who is advancing new interpretations for the
 16 terms "a plurality of [juxtaposed] fins" and "side[s] of the fins" because Asetek is not satisfied with
 17 the Court's previous claim construction ruling and is not satisfied with Judge Beeler's Order granting
 18 CoolIT's motion to amend its infringement contentions. As stated during the December 22, 2020 case
 19 management conference, CoolIT does not believe that any additional construction is necessary for the
 20 terms "a plurality of [juxtaposed] fins" and "side[s] of the fins" as they have a readily understood plain
 21 and ordinary meaning to a person of ordinary skill in the art. (12/22/20 Hearing Transcript at pp. 7-
 22 9.) However, if the Court believes further construction is warranted, the additional briefing can be
 23 included in the proposed briefing schedule below.

24 **Proposed Stipulated Schedule**

Event	Proposed Dates
Asetek to serve amended consolidated complaint against CoolIT and Corsair based on previously served design drawings and sample of CoolIT's "new design," and with the understanding based on representations by CoolIT's counsel that any further changes to the "new design" will likely not be material to Asetek's claims.	Jan 22, 2021

1	Asetek to (a) serve identification of asserted claims from the '362, '354, '355, '601, and '196 patents against accused CoolIT/Corsair products including Capellix and CoolIT's "new design" (subject to an overall limit of 16 claims with no more than 5 claims per patent and no new claims from the '362, '354, and '355 patents, i.e., claims for these patents must be from the previously selected 16 claims), (b) serve amended infringement contentions including the Capellix products, CoolIT's "new design," and the '601 and '196 patents. (Asetek to include no new infringement theories against the Capellix product, but new infringement theories/positions against the "new design" are permitted).	Feb 5, 2021
6	CoolIT to provide updated design drawings reflecting any additional changes to the new design. CoolIT will make every effort to also provide a 3-D model reflecting any additional changes. To the extent Asetek believes it needs to amend its infringement contentions, parties will meet and confer to discuss a schedule for serving amended infringement contentions and any adjustments to the schedule.	Feb 12, 2021
10	Deadline to move to add parties or amend the pleadings	Feb 12, 2021
11	CoolIT/Corsair to serve invalidity contentions for the '196 and '601 patents (CoolIT/Corsair to include no prior art against the '196 and '601 patents other than the prior art references in CoolIT's final election of prior art against Asetek's '362, '354, and '355 patents).	Feb 19, 2021
12	Asetek's position: Exchange of proposed terms for construction from Asetek's '196 and '601 patents and CoolIT's '330 patent.	February 26, 2021
14	CoolIT's position: Exchange of proposed terms for construction from Asetek's '196 and '601 patents.	February 26, 2021
15	Exchange of preliminary claim constructions and extrinsic evidence	March 5, 2021
16	Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement and Claim Construction Expert Reports	March 19, 2021
17	Completion of Claim Construction Discovery	March 31, 2021
18	Opening Claim Construction Brief	April 8, 2021
19	Responsive Claim Construction Brief	April 22, 2021
20	Reply Claim Construction Brief	April 29, 2021
21	Claim Construction Hearing	May 13, 2021
22	Fact discovery cut-off	July 29, 2021
23	Opening expert reports	August 12, 2021
24	Rebuttal expert reports	September 16, 2021
25	Expert discovery cut-off	October 7, 2021
26	Deadline to file dispositive motions	October 14, 2021
27	Last day to hear dispositive motions	November 18, 2021
28	Meet and confer re pretrial conference statements	December 21, 2021
	Joint pretrial conference statement/trial briefs	January 11, 2022
	Objections due	January 21, 2022
	Pretrial conference	February 1, 2022

1 Trial	February 28, 2022
2 Estimate of trial length (in days)	3 10-12 court days

4 **2. Discovery Limits on Corsair**

5 CoolIT and Corsair's position is that the customer suit exception should apply and the case
6 should be stayed as to Corsair. Asetek disagrees. However, to avoid burdening the Court with
7 additional motion practice, the parties have instead attempted to negotiate an agreement on limiting
8 written discovery on Corsair as indicated below. However, a dispute remains regarding depositions
9 of Corsair personnel, which the parties request the Court to resolve. The parties have also agreed to
10 treat the separately named Corsair defendants collectively as one Corsair party, not separate parties,
11 with respect to the stipulated limits, discovery responses, and witnesses.

12 **Stipulated limits on written discovery on Corsair**

13 The parties hereby stipulate that written discovery on Corsair will be limited to 10
14 interrogatories, 10 requests for admission (not including requests for admission directed to
15 authenticity and/or admissibility of documents), and 50 requests for production of documents or
16 things.

17 **Dispute regarding deposition limits on Corsair**

18 Asetek's position: Although Asetek believes that there is nothing barring Asetek from taking
19 discovery from Corsair as a party to the consolidated actions as permitted under the Federal Rules, to
20 resolve this disputed issue Asetek nevertheless agreed to limit the scope of discovery on Corsair to
21 narrow the focus of the case and reduce costs of litigation for all parties.¹ As a result, Asetek agreed

23 ¹ Asetek continues to disagree with CoolIT's assertion that the customer suit exception
24 should prevent Asetek from taking discovery from Corsair. Although this issue was previously
25 briefed and argued, CoolIT insists on continuing to argue and cite cases below. Asetek respectfully
26 refers the Court to Asetek's previously filed brief on the matter (Dkt 191) and, in response to
CoolIT's citation below to Magistrate Judge Beeler's decision in *Xiaohua Huang v. Open-Silicon*,
Case no. 18-cv-00707, 2018 WL 5099275, at *5 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 27, 2018), Asetek notes that
Xiaohua Huang is unusual in that it involved a *pro se* plaintiff, and that it is atypical to apply the
customer suit exception where the defendants are both present in the same action. For example,
Judge Seeborg ruled that the customer suit exception was inapplicable because the manufacturer and
customer were defendants in the same case in *Mycone Dental Supply Co. v. Creative Nail Design,*
Inc., No. C 12-00747 RS, 2012 WL 12899100, at *2 (N.D. Cal. May 30, 2012) ("Those cases all

1 to the limits on written discovery specified above. Asetek is also amenable to reasonable limits on
 2 deposing Corsair, but the limits on depositions asserted by Corsair are prejudicial and unreasonable.
 3 For example, after Asetek reviews Corsair's document production, Asetek should be entitled to take
 4 at least one or two Rule 30(b)(1) depositions of Corsair witnesses, *if needed*, on topics such as
 5 Corsair's sales and financial documents, corporate structure, and business relationship with CoolIT,
 6 etc., early in the case and prior to taking any Rule 30(b)(6) deposition(s). Asetek believes this is
 7 necessary to ensure that its counsel have an early and accurate understanding of, among other things,
 8 Corsair's sales channels via the various Corsair corporate entities and also with third party resellers
 9 (such as Amazon) to determine whether and to what extent third party and other follow up discovery
 10 may be necessary to prove infringing sales. If third party discovery will be necessary, then Asetek's
 11 counsel will need to initiate third-party discovery early during fact discovery because third party
 12 discovery via subpoenas can become protracted.

13 All of the above was explained during the meet and confer. CoolIT/Corsair incorrectly assert
 14 below that Asetek said that it will take Rule 30(b)(6) depositions on subjects covered by its earlier
 15 one or two Rule 30(b)(1) witnesses. Not so. In fact, Asetek explained that it has no interest in
 16 taking unnecessary deposition testimony, but that it cannot agree at this time to limit its ability to
 17 take Rule 30(b)(6) discovery based on Corsair's assertion that one of its Rule 30(b)(1) witnesses
 18 touched on an issue. CoolIT/Corsair's attempts to tie Asetek's hands are unwarranted and would
 19 prejudice Asetek's right to take relevant and reasonably targeted discovery. Nor should Asetek be
 20 required, as CoolIT/Corsair proposes below, to obtain their agreement to one or two Rule 30(b)(1)
 21 depositions (it is highly unlikely Corsair will agree to any depositions) or to be put to a showing of
 22 good cause for same (which is not required by the Federal Rules).

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arose within the context of multiple suits proceeding in different jurisdictions, whereas here, the
 26 third-party defendants merely seek to stay the claims asserted against them in this single
 27 suit. Accordingly, the doctrine, at least as it is traditionally delimited, does not apply."), citing
Privasys Inc. v. Visa Int'l, No. C 07 03257, 2007 WL 3461761, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 14, 2007)
 28 ("Where, as here, plaintiff has brought suit against both the supplier and its customers in the same
 suit and in the same district, the 'customer suit' exception does not apply.")

1 In the spirit of reaching a compromise on this disputed issue, Asetek's proposal for limited
 2 depositions of Corsair is as follows:

- 3 o a Rule 30(b)(1) deposition of Geoff Lyon (who is the inventor of the asserted CoolIT
 4 patents and is now an employee of Corsair)
- 5 o possibly one or two additional Rule 30(b)(1) depositions on non-technical subject
 6 matter, such as Corsair's sales channels/documents and financial documents,
 7 following review of Corsair documents and prior to taking any Rule 30(b)(6)
 8 depositions (these are separate from Rule 30(b)(1) notices that will be served for
 9 Corsair's later-identified Rule 30(b)(6) witnesses, as discussed below).
- 10 o One Rule 30(b)(6) deposition notice on Corsair, with the understanding that Corsair
 11 will identify the designated Rule 30(b)(6) witness(es) at least two weeks prior to the
 12 depositions and that these witness(es) will provide Rule 30(b)(1) testimony
 13 concurrently with the Rule 30(b)(6) deposition (pursuant to the Rule 30(b)(1)
 14 notice(s) that will be served after the witness(es) are identified).

15 CoolIT and Corsair's position: CoolIT and Corsair believe that the facts of this case fall
 16 squarely within the customer suit exception, justifying a stay of the claims against Corsair. As Judge
 17 Beeler expressly found in *Xiaohua Huang v. Open-Silicon* when she granted the manufacturer's
 18 motion to intervene and stay the case against its customer, "the parties ... may suffer hardship or
 19 inequity in the absence of a stay from duplicative litigation with issues that largely overlap across
 20 [manufacturer and customer]" and "the orderly course of justice is served best by litigating Mr.
 21 Huang's patent claims first against the upstream manufacturer ... before the claims against the
 22 downstream customer." *Xiaohua Huang v. Open-Silicon*, Case no. 18-cv-00707, 2018 WL 5099275,
 23 at *5 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 27, 2018) (J. Beeler); *see also id.* (citing *In re Nintendo of America, Inc.*, 756
 24 F.3d 1363, 1365 (Fed. Cir. 2014) as "disapproving of imposing the burdens of trial on the customer,
 25 for it is the manufacturer who is generally the true defendant in the dispute." (quotations omitted).)
 26 Asetek's reliance on *Mycone* in its footnote above is unavailing. Whereas "[p]rior to *Nintendo*, the
 27 customer-suit rule was limited to cases where a plaintiff brought suit against a manufacturer and its
 28 customers in different actions that were brought in different districts[,] ... *Nintendo*, extended the

1 customer-suit rule and its principles to cases where patent infringement is alleged against an
 2 infringer and its customers.” *Tissue Anchor Innovations, LLC v. Fountain Valley Regional Hospital*,
 3 Case No. SACV 19-00791 JVS (ADSx), 2019 WL 8219779, at *3 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 25, 2019)
 4 (internal citations omitted); *accord WP Banquet, Inc. v. Target Corp.*, LA CV16-02082 JAK (JPRx),
 5 2016 WL 9450448, at *5 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 15, 2016); *Sillage LLC v. Kenrose Perfumes Inc.*, No.
 6 8:14-cv-02043-CAS(RNBx), 2015 WL 3649605, at *6 (C.D. Cal. June 9, 2015).

7 Nevertheless, to avoid burdening the Court with additional motion practice, CoolIT and
 8 Corsair have proposed a compromise that would allow Asetek to take written discovery of Corsair as
 9 noted above, a Rule 30(b)(1) deposition of Geoff Lyon (who is the inventor of the asserted CoolIT
 10 patents and is now an employee of Corsair), the Rule 30(b)(6) deposition of Corsair, and up to two
 11 additional Rule 30(b)(1) depositions upon agreement by the parties or a showing of good cause after
 12 the Rule 30(b)(6) deposition. CoolIT and Corsair further agreed not to object to Asetek serving two
 13 separate Rule 30(b)(6) deposition notices on Corsair with one coming earlier than the other: one on
 14 the topics of sales and financial information, corporate structure, and business relationship with
 15 CoolIT, and the second on any remaining topics. Asetek has rejected this offer and has stated that it
 16 intends to take the Rule 30(b)(1) deposition of a witness that can speak on “Corsair’s sales and
 17 financial documents, corporate structure, and business relationship with CoolIT” and then a
 18 subsequent Rule 30(b)(6) deposition. Given the subjects Asetek identifies for the 30(b)(1)
 19 deposition, the subsequent 30(b)(6) deposition would more likely than not cover those same
 20 subjects. Subjecting Corsair employees to multiple depositions covering the same information is
 21 burdensome and harassing. This is especially egregious when Asetek admits that it is CoolIT’s
 22 technology that is at issue in this suit, not Corsair’s technology.

23 If, in fact, Asetek has no intention of taking a 30(b)(6) deposition “on subjects covered by its
 24 earlier one or two Rule 30(b)(1) witnesses,” then there is no logical reason for Asetek to reject
 25 CoolIT’s offer of two 30(b)(6) depositions, where Asetek is permitted to take an earlier deposition
 26 covering the topics on which it claims it needs earlier information. Indeed, during meet and confer,
 27 Asetek articulated no reason whatsoever for why it needs a *separate* and *early* 30(b)(1) witness on
 28 the topics of sales and financial information, corporate structure, and business relationship with

CoolIT, in addition to a subsequent Rule 30(b)(6) deposition on the very same topics, leading CoolIT and Corsair to believe Asetek's request to be nothing more than a fishing expedition. Asetek is represented by experienced patent litigation counsel and will not be surprised by anything that may come up in those depositions, so as to necessitate a preparatory and additional non-30(b)(6) deposition. CoolIT and Corsair's proposal, as outlined below, provides Asetek with an opportunity to get an earlier witness if it chooses in the form of separate 30(b)(6) notices while minimizing the burden on Corsair, whose technology is not even at issue in this patent infringement case. CoolIT and Corsair's proposal is as follows:

- Corsair agrees to the written discovery above;
- A Rule 30(b)(1) deposition of Geoff Lyon;
- Asetek may serve two Rule 30(b)(6) deposition notices--one notice on the topics of sales and financial information, corporate structure, and business relationship with CoolIT and the other notice on all other topics, with the understanding that Asetek is not interested in noticing topics on technical subject matter because the technology at issue is CoolIT's technology; and
- Upon agreement by the parties or a showing of good cause, Asetek may serve up to two additional Rule 30(b)(1) deposition notices after the Rule 30(b)(6) deposition.

A proposed order regarding the deposition limits on Corsair is included herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 25, 2021

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, LLP

Dated: January 25, 2021

COOLEY LLP

By: /s/ *Reuben Chen*

. Reuben Chen

Attnorneys for Defendant and Counterclaimant
COOLIT SYSTEMS, INC. and Defendants
CORSAIR GAMING, INC. and CORSAIR
MEMORY, INC.

1 **ATTESTATION**

2 Counsel for Asetek Danmark A/S hereby attests by his signature below that concurrence in
3 the filing of this document was obtained from counsel for CoolIT Systems, Inc., Corsair Gaming,
4 Inc., and Corsair Memory, Inc.

5 Dated: January 25, 2021

6 FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
7 GARRETT & DUNNER, LLP

8 By: /s/ Robert McCauley
9 Robert F. McCauley
10 Attorneys for Plaintiff and Counterdefendant
11 ASETEK DANMARK A/S

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[PROPOSED] ORDER

The Court having reviewed the parties' FURTHER JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT STATEMENT, and good cause appearing therefore, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The parties' stipulated case management schedule is accepted.
2. For the dispute regarding limits on deposition of Corsair witnesses, the Court grants (please choose one):

Asetek's requested limits on deposition of Corsair witnesses: a Rule 30(b)(6) deposition of inventor Geoff Lyon; one or two possible Rule 30(b)(1) depositions of Corsair witnesses (prior to taking Rule 30(b)(6) depositions) on non-technical subject matter, such as Corsair's sales channels/documents and financial documents, corporate structure, and business relations with CoolIT; and one Rule 30(b)(6) deposition notice (with concurrent Rule 30(b)(1) deposition(s) of the identified Rule 30(b)(6) witness(es)).

CoolIT's requested limits on deposition of Corsair witnesses: a Rule 30(b)(1) deposition of inventor Geoff Lyon; Rule 30(b)(6) depositions (Asetek may serve two separate notices); and, upon agreement by the parties or a showing of good cause, Asetek may serve up to two additional Rule 30(b)(1) deposition notices after the Rule 30(b)(6) deposition.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated:

Honorable Edward M. Chen
United States District Court Judge
Northern District of California